Dear Bruce and Jane:

Esther and I are trying to fix our plans, finally, for our trip this summer, and we would very much like to know if you have come to any conclusions yourselves. In particular, are you still game for a few days tour by car north from London?

We are by no means certain now that we will try to rush back to Montreal for the Genetics Congress, which may relax some of the pressure of time. A tentative plan we now have is to fly from Paris (Royaumont) to Stockholm via Copenhagen on August 4; leave Stockholm back to Copenhagen on the 11th or 12th; leave Copenhagen for a short fjord cruise in Norway; this could let us get to London about the 21st of August.

If we ended up in Scotland we thought we might stay for a few days with the Mitchisons and fly back to the US via Glasgow.

None of the above is definite, and the scheme is put down just to have something to hang on to. How would it fit into your own plans. How much leeway of time would you have? We have to fix our reservations before very much longer.

We're having a frantically busy time with Cavalli these last several weeks doing interrupted matings. The main issue, exactly what is being interrupted is still ambiguous (i.e. entry vs. pairing of a previously entered chromosome) though the Jacob-Wollman thesis is plausible enough. One catch is that different F stocks seems to show different times of entry for the same marker, e.g., T+L+, which appears at about 8 minutes with one derivative of Y-10, and about 20 minutes with another one. This doesn't altogether rule out progressive entry from the male cell, but I suspect it shows that pairing plays an important role, at least in addition to timed entry.

Have you had a chance to look for the book I asked you for (Franken-Haldane: Man's World). May I add another assignment to that: Yonge's book (about 1939) on A Year on the Barraer Reef.

Say hello to Tetsuo: I'm sure he's as busy as a bee. I haven't had much time while Luca was here to do any manuscripting, but will have most of July for that. Will we see you and him at Royaumont? How would you make that trip, by rail air or car? We thought of deplaning at London and taking the boat train, but that wouldn't be much fun except in good company.

With all the best.

Ball 12